

For Immediate Release

Geodiversity Education Foundation Releases
“Rocky the Raccoon Explores Toronto”

October 8, 2026, Toronto, Ontario: Geodiversity Education Foundation (GEF) and the **Canadian Geological Foundation** are pleased to announce the release of the Foundation’s second children’s book (see Figure 1). This book follows Rocky the Raccoon as he explores the City of Toronto with his fossil friend Lily.

Physical copies of this new book are [now available](#), and all Geodiversity Education Foundation children’s books can be viewed for free on the [Kids Zone](#) of the GEF website.

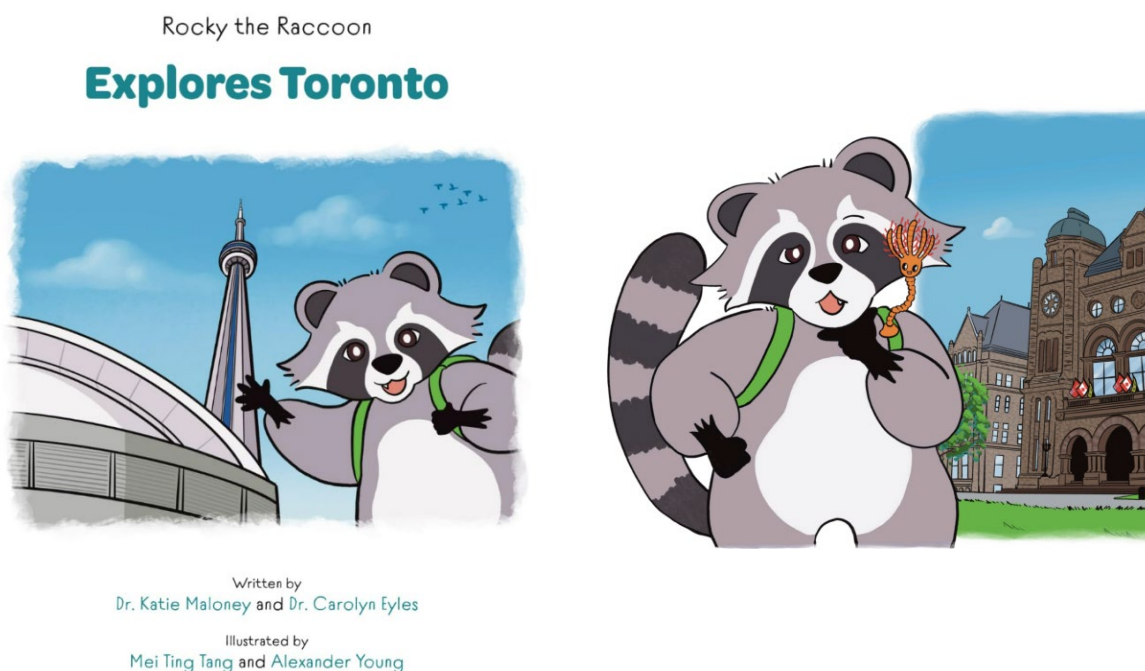


Figure 1. Cover of the Geodiversity Education Foundation’s latest children’s book, “Rocky the Raccoon Explores Toronto”.

Figure 2. Rocky and Lily observe sandstones used in building the Ontario Legislative Building at Queen’s Park.

Published by the Geodiversity Education Foundation, ***Rocky the Raccoon Explores Toronto*** is an engaging educational children’s book written by geoscientists Dr. Katie Maloney, P.Geo. and Dr. Carolyn Eyles, P.Geo. with illustrations by Mei Ting Tang and Alexander Young. The story follows Rocky, a curious raccoon from the Niagara Escarpment in Hamilton, who visits his cousins in Toronto. He meets up with his friend Lily, a fossilized crinoid embedded in a building’s limestone pillar, who becomes his guide on an urban geological adventure. Together, they explore landmarks such as the University of Toronto campus, Queen’s Park (see

Figure 2), the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM; see Figure 3), and the Don Valley Brick Works (see Figure 4), uncovering the ancient marine fossils, critical minerals, and buried waterways hidden in plain sight.

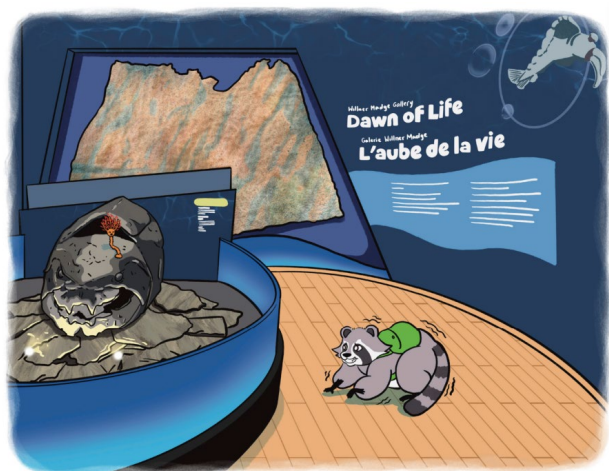


Figure 3. Rocky and Lily explore the Dawn of Life exhibit at the ROM.



Figure 4. Rocky and his cousins at the Don Valley Brick Works.

Designed to spark curiosity about Earth Science, the book weaves together lively storytelling with accessible, real-world science education. Through dedicated "Lily's Lore" sections, an illustrated glossary, and scientific spotlights, young readers learn how ancient oceans shaped Ontario's stone architecture, how everyday technologies rely on critical minerals, and how pioneering Canadian geoscientists like Dr. Alice Wilson and Dr. Madeleine Fritz broke barriers in the field.

With support from the Canadian Geological Foundation, *Rocky the Raccoon Explores Toronto* transforms familiar urban environments into an open-air classroom, and inspires children and families to see the deep geological history present in their own backyards.

About the Geodiversity Education Foundation

The Geodiversity Education Foundation is a registered charitable organization under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, registration number 84604 5052 RR0001. The purpose of the charity is to advance the education of the public in the area of geoscience – www.geodiversity.ca, developed by the Foundation, is an innovative one-stop spot for the public to gather information about the earth beneath their feet. This website provides interesting information on all facets of geoscience. A particularly exciting feature of Geodiversity.ca is the highlighting of virtual field trips in different areas in Ontario. This enables viewers to experience and learn about the geology of an area in person or while traversing it digitally in ESRI ArcGIS Online™ and StoryMaps™.

If you like our work, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support our programs.

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